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Summary record of the 45th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 19 December 1997, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Chowdhury ..... (Bangladesh)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Mselle

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The meeting was called to order at 3.25 p.m.

Agenda item 116: Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 (*continued*)

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/52/L.72/Rev.1 concerning agenda item 157 (*continued*) (A/C.5/52/36; A/52/L.72/Rev.1)

1. **The Chairman** proposed that the Committee should decide to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the relevant report of the Secretary-General and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and that the programme budget implications arising out of draft resolution A/52/L.72/Rev.1 should be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 (A/52/303 and Add.1).

2. *It was so decided.*

Salary and retirement allowance of the Secretary-General and salary and pensionable remuneration of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (A/52/7/Add.8)

3. **Mr. Mselle** (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Advisory Committee's report (A/52/7/Add.8) was being submitted to the General Assembly in implementation of the Assembly's resolutions concerning the salaries, allowances and pensionable remuneration of staff. Paragraphs 1 to 8 contained the Advisory Committee's comments on the salary and retirement allowance of the Secretary-General and salary and pensionable remuneration of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Paragraphs 9 and 10 dealt with the financial implications of the Advisory Committee's recommendations. The annex to the report contained a draft resolution whose effect would be to bring up to date the salary and retirement allowance of the Secretary-General and the salary and pensionable remuneration of the Administrator of UNDP. He wished to commend the Advisory Committee's report to the Fifth Committee.

4. **Mr. Bond** (United States of America) asked how the figure of $9,416 in paragraph 9 (b) of the Advisory Committee's report had been reached.

5. **Mr. Mselle** (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) assured the representative of the United States that the estimate in question had been carefully calculated on the basis of the recommendations contained in the Advisory Committee's report. He would be in a position to provide a more specific answer to the query after he had had time to consult the relevant worksheet.

6. **The Chairman** proposed that the Committee should adopt the draft resolution contained in the annex to the Advisory Committee's report.

7. *It was so decided.*

Agenda item 115: programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 (*continued*)

Second performance report (*continued*) (A/C.5/52/32)

8. **The Chairman** proposed that consideration of the item should be deferred to allow informal consultations on the subject to continue.

9. *It was so decided.*

Other matters

10. **Mr. Tommo-Monthe** (Cameroon) said that the General Assembly had entrusted the Committee with the consideration of items such as the scale of assessments, the proposed programme budget and personnel questions, which were of an extremely delicate nature. It was therefore important for the Committee to be given enough time to reach agreement on those items, on which the future strength and effectiveness of the Organization depended.

11. **Mr. Deineko** (Russian Federation) announced that, in fulfilment of an earlier undertaking, the Russian Federation had that morning made a payment to the United Nations in an amount of over $63 million, thereby clearing its arrears in respect of the peacekeeping budget and significantly reducing its arrears with respect to the United Nations operations in Lebanon and Somalia. The payment was further testimony to the Russian Federation's preparedness to completely pay off its arrears to the Organization.

The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.